

(A) **ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY.**—The term “eligible community” means a low-income community with economic hardship that—

(i) is commonly referred to as a colonia;

(ii) is located along the United States-Mexico border (generally in an unincorporated area); and

(iii) lacks basic sanitation facilities such as a safe drinking water supply, household plumbing, and a proper sewage disposal system.

(B) **BORDER STATE.**—The term “border State” means Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas.

(C) **TREATMENT WORKS.**—The term “treatment works” has the meaning provided in section 212(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1292(2)).

(2) **GRANTS TO ALLEVIATE HEALTH RISKS.**—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies are authorized to award grants to any appropriate entity or border State to provide assistance to eligible communities for—

(A) the conservation, development, use and control (including the extension or improvement of a water distribution system) of water for the purpose of supplying drinking water; and

(B) the construction or improvement of sewers and treatment works for wastewater treatment.

(3) **USE OF FUNDS.**—Each grant awarded pursuant to paragraph (2) shall be used to provide assistance to one or more eligible community with respect to which the residents are subject to a significant health risk (as determined by the Administrator or the head of the Federal agency making the grant) attributable to the lack of access to an adequate and affordable drinking water supply system or treatment works for wastewater.

(4) **OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.**—The Administrator and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, other entities or border States are authorized to use funds appropriated pursuant to this subsection to operate and maintain a treatment works or other project that is constructed with funds made available pursuant to this subsection.

(5) **PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.**—Each treatment works or other project that is funded by a grant awarded pursuant to this subsection shall be constructed in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the Administrator, the head of the Federal agency making the grant, or the border State in which the eligible community is located. The standards for construction applicable to a treatment works or other project eligible for assistance under title II of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1281 et seq.) shall apply to the construction of a treatment works or project under this subsection in the same manner as the standards apply under such title.

(6) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 1996 through 2003.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United

States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 1995, the Secretary of the Senate, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2539) to abolish the Interstate Commerce Commission, to amend subtitle IV of title 49, United States Code, to reform economic regulations of transportation, and for other purposes, and asks a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following Members as the managers of the conference on the part of the House:

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of the House bill, and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. CLINGER, Mr. PETRI, Mr. COBLE, Ms. MOLINARI, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. LIPINSKI.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1788. An act to reform the statutes relating to Amtrak, to authorize appropriations for Amtrak, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measures were read the second time and placed on the calendar:

S. 1438. A bill to establish a commission to review the dispute settlement reports of the World Trade Organization, and for other purposes.

S. 1441. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 1996 through 1999 and to abolish the United States Information Agency, the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the Agency for International Development, and for other purposes.

The following measure was read the first and second time by unanimous consent and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1788. An act to reform the statutes relating to Amtrak, to authorize appropriations for Amtrak, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1641. A communication from the White House Chief of Staff, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of certification relative to the Executive Office of the President's Drug Free Workplace Plan; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1642. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the list of General Accounting Office reports and testimony for October 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1643. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1644. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend 5 U.S.C. section 5706 to authorize the head of an agency to reimburse Federal employees for taxes incurred on money received for travel expenses; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1645. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Information Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1, 1995, through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1646. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize financial institutions to disclose to the Office of Personnel Management the names and current addresses of their customers who are receiving, by direct deposit or electronic funds transfer, payment of Civil Service Retirement benefits under chapter 83 or Federal Employees' Retirement benefits under chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1647. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to provide for accrual accounting of retirement costs for Federal civilian employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1648. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1649. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of surplus real property transferred for public health purposes for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1650. A communication from the Under Secretary of the Treasury (Domestic Finance), transmitting, pursuant to law, relative to the debt limit and the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund (CSR); to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1651. A communication from the Under Secretary of the Treasury (Domestic Finance), transmitting, pursuant to law, relative to the debt limit and the Federal Employees' Retirement System Government Securities Investment Fund (FERS); to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1652. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled “Performance Audit of the Office of Emergency Preparedness;” to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1653. A communication from the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1654. A communication from the Chairman of the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, a resolution concerning proposed D.C. law 11-150; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1657. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 11-147 adopted by the Council on October 10, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1658. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 11-150 adopted by the Council on October 10, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. JOHNSTON:

S. 1442. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award a grant for the establishment of the National Center for Sickle Cell Disease Research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. SIMON (for himself and Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN):

S. 1443. A bill to designate the United States Post Office building located at 102 South McLean, Lincoln, Illinois, as the "Edward Madigan Post Office Building," and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. JOHNSTON:

S. 1442. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award a grant for the establishment of the National Center for Sickle Cell Disease Research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR SICKLE CELL DISEASE RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT ACT OF 1995

• Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, I introduce legislation that will support research for a disease which disproportionately affects African-Americans and other minority groups. Sickle cell disease is a painful, life-threatening, genetic disease. Approximately 1 of every 12 African-Americans is born with the sickle cell genetic trait, and about 1 in every 600 is afflicted with sickle cell disease. Sickle cell conditions are also found, although less frequently, in other United States populations, including those of Puerto Rican, Cuban, and southern Italian ancestry. The disease has also recently been found in some Caucasians.

Sickle cell disease is based in the circulatory system and is a painful and

disabling disorder for which there is currently no cure. In a healthy body, red blood cells contain the substance hemoglobin which carries oxygen from the lungs to various organs and tissues. This role of hemoglobin is essential to life because all body components require oxygen to live and carry out their functions. Diseased bodies have an abnormal type of hemoglobin which interrupts the flow of oxygen to these vital organs.

Red blood cells that contain normal hemoglobin remain round when they release oxygen. Cells with abnormal or sickle hemoglobin, upon releasing oxygen, become distorted into the shape of a sickle causing a chronic and painful anemia. Distorted, or sickled cells cannot traverse capillaries, further limiting oxygen supply to the body's tissues.

Mr. President, the minority population in the State of Louisiana is about 1.29 million people. Of this number roughly 3,250 people are suspected of having the disease, and of this number, 25 percent will have the most acute and serious form, which is often fatal. Alarming, about 130,000 Louisianians carry the genetic trait for this illness.

Mr. President, despite the fact that the cause of the sickle cell disease has been known for many years, progress has not been made in finding suitable treatment. Currently, the most common treatment for the illness is pain relief medication, treating only the immediate symptoms. Treating only the symptoms results in tissue damage, often to major organs, with each successive episode of oxygen deprivation. Consequently, many of those afflicted with severe forms of the disease often do not even live to see adulthood.

Concerned with finding a cure for a disease that has such a devastating effect on the Nation's minority populations, Southern University in Baton Rouge, LA, the largest predominately African-American university in the United States, has committed itself to the creation of a center for sickle cell disease research.

With a single purpose, this center will conduct multidisciplinary research to lead to the discovery of a cure for sickle cell disease. The center will conduct basic biomedical research to determine the types of drugs that can prevent, inhibit, or reverse the sickling process, along with clinical research and joint studies to conduct clinical trials on antisickling agents. In addition, the center will work with other institutions to promote and enhance scholarship and teaching knowledge in order to disseminate newly gained knowledge on the disease.

Mr. President, it is important to note that the Louisiana State Legislature in recognition of the importance of such a center, and even in these exceedingly hard economic times, has committed \$7 million to this project. To complete the center, and to be able to provide this valuable public health research,

Southern University needs Federal assistance. To provide this assistance, I offer a bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award a grant for the creation of this center. This legislation will direct the Secretary to provide a grant to the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals for the establishment and construction of the National Center for Sickle Cell Disease Research at Southern University in Baton Rouge.

Mr. President, sickle cell disease is a vital public health problem which this bill would assist in overcoming. Such funding can only aid in the development of this Nation. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1442

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that:

(1) Sickle Cell Disease is a serious illness that disproportionately affects African-Americans.

(2) Approximately 1 out of every 12 African-Americans is born with the sickle cell trait, and about 1 out of every 600 is afflicted with Sickle Cell Disease.

(3) Sickle Cell conditions also occur in other United States populations, primarily those of Puerto Rican, Cuban, southern Italian ancestry and more recently sickle cell has been found in some Caucasian individuals.

(4) Sickle Cell Disease is a painful and disabling disorder which can lead to untimely death and is caused by inadequate transportation of oxygen due to an abnormal type of hemoglobin molecule in the red blood cells.

(5) Sickle Cell Disease is an inherited disease which can be transmitted to offspring, particularly if both parents carry the genetic trait.

(6) The sickle cell trait carriers show no sign of the disease, but statistically, 1 in 4 of their children will be afflicted with the disease.

(7) There is no national research center devoted to Sickle Cell Disease in the United States.

(8) There is no known cure for Sickle Cell Disease at this time and there is a need for prioritized and specialized research to find such a cure for this severely disabling disease.

(9) Louisiana's minority population is 1,299,281.

(10) Of this number, a suspected 3,248 individuals will have the disease and of those individuals, 25 percent (812 individuals) will have the most acute and serious stage of Sickle Cell Disease, a stage that is usually fatal.

(11) Some 129,928 individuals in Louisiana will carry the sickle cell trait.

(12) Southern University, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana is the largest predominately African-American university in the United States.

(13) Approximately 16,700 students attend this 112 year old school and Southern graduates are located throughout the United States and the world.

(14) The State of Louisiana through the Louisiana Legislature and Southern University, has shown great leadership and committed significant financial and personnel